THE LUNG AND ITS DISORDERS IN THE NEWBORN INFANT—Volume I in the Series: Major Problems in Clinical Pediatrics—Mary Ellen Avery, A.B., M.D., Assistant Professor of Pediatrics, Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine; Pediatrician-in-Charge, Newborn Nurseries, The Johns Hopkins Hospital. Consulting Editor, Alexander J. Schaffer. W. B. Saunders Company, Philadelphia and London, 1964. 224 pages. $7.50.

Dr. Mary Ellen Avery, author of this book, is Assistant Professor of Pediatrics at Johns Hopkins University School of Medicine, and Pediatrician-in-Charge of the Newborn Nurseries at the Johns Hopkins Hospital. This book is the first in a series, "Major Problems in Clinical Pediatrics," under the editorship of Dr. Alexander J. Schaffer. Dr. Schaffer could hardly have chosen a better or more qualified person for the subject at hand than Dr. Avery. Through her efforts, this series has had a most auspicious beginning.

In her usual meticulous and clear manner, Dr. Avery has done a superb job of reviewing a difficult subject, and making it come alive.

In Part I, she describes the normal development and physiology of the fetal and neonatal lung. In Part II, Disorders of Respiration in the Newborn Period are discussed, and Part III is devoted to artificial respiration. The reviewer is pleased to see the return of the terminology "Hyaline Membrane Disease," for lack of a better term. Since this entity is so very important in the newborn period, it is well to quote Dr. Avery's conclusions after one of her typically fine chapters:

"The preceding sections make evident the contradictions that face the clinician who wants to treat an infant with Hyaline Membrane Disease. If he subscribes to the aspiration theory, he will want to keep the infant head down; if he believes heart failure is a problem, he may raise the head. If he is concerned with the possibility of a decreased blood volume from early clamping of the cord, he will elect to transfuse the infant, just as he might if he felt clinical shock were important. If he believes the trouble is heart failure, he would probably restrict salt, and surely not transfuse and give albumin. He may feel that the degree of cyanosis warrants whatever added inspired oxygen is needed to overcome it. He may, on the other hand, be impressed that high oxygen is toxic to animal lungs, and perhaps infant lungs. If a metabolic acidosis troubles him, he may alkalinize the infant, at the risk again of overloading the circulation already disordered. He may feel that artificial respiration is in order, although he knows the risks involved in the face of shock."

This is a book with which every pediatrician must be familiar, and to which everyone who deals with newborn infants should have ready access. Doctors Avery and Schaffer have made a most worthwhile contribution in a much-needed area.

BENJAMIN M. KAGAN, M.D.

* * *

GROWTH DISORDERS IN CHILDREN AND ADOLESCENTS—Solomon A. Kaplan, M.D., Associate Professor of Pediatrics, University of Southern California; Head, Division of Endocrinology, Childrens Hospital of Los Angeles; Director of Laboratories, Childrens Hospital of Los Angeles; and Attending Physician, Los Angeles County Hospital, Los Angeles, California. Charles C. Thomas, Publisher, 301-327 East Lawrence Avenue, Springfield, Illinois, 1964. 202 pages, $8.50.

The author has succeeded in describing what may be expected to occur in the development of children and adolescents whose growth patterns, medical histories, and physical examinations indicate growth disorders. In doing so, he has defined in some detail the current concepts of "Normal Physical Growth." He describes variations in the developmental pattern of secondary sexual characteristics, and the influence of growth hormones, thyroid, the gonads, and the adrenals. Primordial dwarfism, the effect of renal and heart disease, psychological and mental factors are expertly reviewed. A chapter is devoted to the clinical examination of subjects with such problems, and there are chapters on "Treatment of Growth Retardation," and on "Excessive Growth in Children."

No attempt has been made to give an exhaustive review of the literature, but references are adequate for those who seek additional information. There are 18 pages of references.

This is a book that not only lends itself to ready reference, but one which can be read with pleasure as well as profit. Dr. Kaplan writes with obvious facility and clarity, as well as meticulous attention to accuracy.

The photographs are of excellent quality. There are 56 figures, which number includes the charts. All of these are pertinently related to the text. This book can be recommended for the pediatrician, and for any physician concerned with problems of growth in children and adolescents.

BENJAMIN M. KAGAN, M.D.

* * *

THE CORONARY PATIENT—Hospital Care and Rehabilitation—Gladys Nite, M.A., R.N., Principal Investigator and Director, Research in Nursing, Community Studies, Inc., Kansas City, Missouri; and Frank N. Willis, Jr. Ph.D., Co-Investigator and Research Associate, Community Studies, Inc., Kansas City, Missouri. The Macmillan Company, New York, and Collier-Macmillan Limited, London, 1964. 418 pages, $12.50.

This book reports a four-year study carried out in the Independence Hospital of Independence, Missouri, of nursing care of approximately 70 hospitalized patients with acute myocardial infarction. The authors have worked out an elaborate mechanism to determine the effect of especially trained nursing personnel on the recovery and comfort of the patient, especially when the nurse carries the same load as other nurses customarily used in the same hospital.

The authors have planned the work with great care and have set up criteria to evaluate the quality of care and the identification and description of the nursing problems that occurred. It is apparent from the protocols that the experimental group of patients treated by the nurses who had been particularly instructed in the care of cardiac patients received superb attention. In general, these patients seem to have profited considerably from the detail of nursing care that they received, but the data indicated no increased survival or decreased complications.

The book is somewhat repetitive and the degree of detail may be excessive, but the authors have tried to tabulate a wide variety of factors involved in the course of the four weeks' hospitalization that each patient had.

It is apparent that the principal investigator considered that the nurse was an independent member of the medical team, as exemplified by the fact that she ordered leg exercises even though the physician did not order them. She did this because her review of the literature indicated this was wise and because many physicians in the same hospital ordered this. The customary nursing group viewed their role in a somewhat more limited fashion and felt their role was to carry out orders written by the physician.

Much of the details of nursing care will be of great value to physicians, and the suggestions by the authors of means of diversion, of the value of explaining why activities were to be limited, of appreciating that not all patients relax with classical music but that some prefer jazz, and the recommendations regarding foam rubber mattresses, contour sheets, nylon protective covers over the mattresses instead of rubber covers, etc., all are recommendations of practical value. Each chapter has a selected bibliography and at the end of the book there is an annotated bibliography, pri-

marily dealing with various aspects of cardiac and coronary disease, which will be of considerable value to the reader.

The book will be of considerable interest to nurses and to those physicians who wish to understand more about how first-class nursing care can be given to patients if the nurses are instructed in the proper philosophy and roles of her mission.

MAURICE SOKOLOW, M.D.

* * *

OUTLINE OF ELECTROCARDIOGRAPHY—H. Harold Friedman, M.D., F.A.C.P., F.A.C.C., Assistant Clinical Professor of Medicine, University of Colorado Medical Center; Attending Physician and Electrocardiographer, General Rose Memorial Hospital, Denver; Attending Cardiologist, National Jewish Hospital and Veterans Administration Hospital, Denver. McGraw-Hill Book Company, Inc., (The Blakiston Division) 330 West 42nd Street, New York, N.Y. 10036, 1963. 300 pages, $5.95.

In this outline the author endeavors to present the basic concepts of electrocardiography and the fundamentals of electrocardiographic diagnosis. This well-bound, easy-to-read, soft-covered handbook is divided into twenty-four chapters which are superbly organized and written with succinct clarity. The scope is quite comprehensive and the material presented is simplified. Several sections may appear rather dogmatic to some readers but this is almost unavoidable in any outline format. However, the diagnostic criteria listed in the text represent a consensus of authoritative electrocardiographers. In addition, the reader is provided with a splendid supplemental reference bibliography relating to the appropriate research and clinical data.

Numerous diagrams and illustrative electrocardiograms are utilized to complement and amplify the author's superimposed brevity. Dr. Friedman devotes some attention to the analysis of the electrocardiogram by the spatial vector as described by Dr. Robert P. Grant, and he also includes a few remarks on basic considerations in vectorcardiography. Included in the Appendix are numerous reference tables relating to the routinely measured intervals and amplitudes. The index is accurate and reasonably detailed.

This outline ranks high on the list of the many similar books on the market today. It is especially recommended for medical students and house officers, as well as the practicing physician who wishes to review the fundamentals of electrocardiography.

MORTON ROSENBLUM, M.D.

* * *

ATLAS OF BLOOD CYTOLOGY—Cytomorphology, Cytochemistry and Cytogenetics—G. Forteza Bover, M.D., with the collaboration of R. Baguena Candela, M.D. Translated by F. G. Golton, J. Vinas and J. Triginer; preface by William Dameshek, M.D. Distributed in the U.S.A. by Grune & Stratton, Inc., New York, 1964. 511 pages, $39.50.

This beautiful book was printed in Spain with over 150 plates, each with two or more photomicrographs in color (×1200), of large size and with brief accompanying description. The translation is excellent and there are no problems with terminology.

The book is divided into three parts, including details of staining methods, normal and pathologic cells. Much emphasis has been placed on cytochemical staining and illustrations of various stains along with fluorescent and phase microscopy are presented with the May-Grunwald-Giemsa stain. One finds it difficult to agree with the author at the present time that the classical staining methods have been "largely superseded" by these newer techniques. However the presentation of this material is probably the most unique and valuable aspect of the book.

The quality of reproduction is excellent except for a few plates. Fine details of cytoplasmic granulation and nuclear chromatin can be distinguished. The color is generally faithfully reproduced although the eosinophilic granules of Plate I are not eosinophilic as are those of eosinophils illustrated elsewhere. The pictures of infectious mononucleosis are among the poorest.

Blood, bone marrow and lymph node material of all varieties are included. There are good plates of tumor cells, parasites, chromosome abnormalities, and of disorders of the lymph nodes and reticulohistiocytic system. No illustrations of osteoblasts were found.

In the copy reviewed, ten pages were out of place and the descriptions did not face the plate. Plate XLII, Hypochromic Iron Deficiency Anemia, illustrates no hypochromia or any features that would permit diagnosis from the picture. In Plate XVL, the lower picture is probably upside down because the descriptive text and illustration don't correspond, but it is difficult to be sure what is wrong. This demonstrates the problem with all current atlases for ideally there should be no problem in simple identification of cells or disorders from the picture.

Medical libraries will include this atlas in their hematology collections, but its cost will force most students to use the more reasonable Diggs or Sandoz atlases. The practicality of cytochemical stains and other special methodology remains to be seen. The definitive atlas of hematology has not yet appeared.

WILLIAM F. LUTTGENS, M.D.

* * *

THE ATRIOVENTRICULAR NODE—And Selected Cardiac Arrhythmias—David Scherf, M.D., F.A.C.P., Professor of Clinical Medicine, New York Medical College; and Jules Cohen, M.D., F.A.C.P., Associate Professor of Clinical Medicine, New York Medical College. Grune & Stratton, Inc., 381 Park Avenue South, New York, N.Y., 1964. 466 pages, $18.75.

This monograph, as the preface states, is a series of loosely connected essays dealing with selected disturbances of the cardiac rhythm involving the atrioventricular node. It is really a review of the literature with a few comments regarding the authors' position on some of the atrioventricular nodal problems under discussion. The review is complete and scholarly and each chapter has a fairly complete bibliography beginning with the earliest work on the subject. Because of the authors' European background, French and German references form a substantial portion of the bibliography. This is of great value to the American reader because a good deal of the early work published in these foreign languages is available for review.

The contents of the monograph form a fairly comprehensive discussion of the atrioventricular node, its anatomy and physiology, and a differential diagnosis of all varieties of atrioventricular rhythm. Included also are atrioventricular block, return extrasystoles, atrioventricular dissociation bloc, return extrasystoles, atrioventricular nodal parasystole, and pre-excitation syndrome. The chapters dealing with atrioventricular dissociation, pre-excitation syndrome, and atrioventricular rhythm are particularly comprehensive and well illustrated.

Even though the authors state that the section on treatment of the discussed arrhythmias "purposely was kept as sketchy as possible," the clinician will indeed regret that not only is treatment scarcely mentioned but neither are the clinical implications of the disturbances of rhythm under discussion. For example, under atrioventricular dissociation a very short paragraph indicates that digitalis plays an important role, but this is confined to indicating what percentage of patients with the arrhythmia was probably due to digitalis. No discussion of the difficulties in establishing digitalis toxicity, its relationship to atrial tachy-